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Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa

Report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD

Executive summary

This year's report on the activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa covers the period May 2013 to April 2014. As in previous years, this year's report is organized around UNCTAD's three main pillars of work, namely research and analysis, consensus-building and technical cooperation. The report continues to document the impact that UNCTAD's work has on African development outcomes through three main channels, namely through contributions to policy design, formulation and implementation; through capacity-building of African government officials, institutions, private sector and civil society; and through the facilitation of consensus on issues of interest to Africa.

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Introduction

1. The present report provides an overview of UNCTAD's activities across its three main pillars of work, namely research and analysis, consensus-building and technical cooperation.

2. UNCTAD remains committed towards strengthening its partnerships with key institutions of the African region, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Union Commission. For instance, UNCTAD organized a meeting in 2013 to review the "Report of a study on domestic resource mobilization" which the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee mandated the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency and ECA to conduct. In January 2014, UNCTAD and the Planning and Coordination Committee signed a memorandum of understanding to consolidate collaboration between the two institutions.

3. UNCTAD has been actively participating in shaping the post-2015 development agenda, especially in relation to Africa. Contributions to this agenda have been made through presentations and interventions at expert meetings and seminars. For example, UNCTAD participated in a brainstorming meeting on "African perspectives on the post-2015 development agenda" held in Cape Town, South Africa, on 13 September 2013, organized by the University of Cape Town and the secretariat of the High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

I. Research and policy analysis

4. UNCTAD's research and policy analysis contributes to more effective design, formulation and implementation of policies in Africa in four major ways: by helping countries to track their economic performance and progress; by stimulating and shaping debates on policy issues affecting Africa's development; by advising African Governments on policy reform through national policy reviews; by supporting African Governments in making appropriate decisions through analytical tools that inform technical decision-making.

A. Tracking economic performance and progress

5. In 2013, the UNCTAD *World Investment Report*, subtitled *Global Value Chains: Investment and Trade for Development* was devoted to the analysis of the global value chain trade and investment nexus. As in previous years, the *World Investment Report* provided a comprehensive analysis of foreign direct investment (FDI) trends in Africa, including a dedicated regional analysis of African investment. FDI inflows to Africa rose for the second year running, up 5 per cent to $50 billion, making it one of the few regions that registered year-on-year growth in 2012. FDI outflows from Africa almost tripled in 2012, to $14 billion. Transnational corporations from the South are increasingly active in Africa, building on a trend in recent years of a higher share of FDI flows to the region coming from emerging markets. In terms of FDI stock, Malaysia, South Africa, China and India (in that order) were the largest developing-country investors in Africa. FDI inflows in 2012 were driven partly by investments in the extractive sector in countries such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mauritania, Mozambique and Uganda. At the same

time, there was an increase in FDI in consumer-oriented manufacturing and services, reflecting demographic changes.

6. In 2013, UNCTAD continued to carry out substantive research on a wide range of policy, legal and regulatory issues and related developments affecting the transport and trade of developing countries, many of which are highly relevant for African countries and subregions. Numerous articles relating to African countries appeared in the quarterly editions of the UNCTAD *Transport Newsletter*. In the autumn of 2013, UNCTAD launched an online repository "Trade facilitation bodies around the world", with information on over 80 trade facilitation committees, including 24 African countries. The repository is aimed at improving coordination and cooperation among private and public sector stakeholders involved in international trade.

7. In addition, several substantive analytical reports were also finalized. The first was a technical report entitled "The way to the ocean", which dealt with issues related to transit corridors servicing the trade of landlocked developing countries. The report focused heavily upon three separate transport corridors in East Africa linking Djibouti, Ethiopia, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda with Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania. Other substantive reports finalized in 2013 focused upon the maritime piracy challenge, in particular as experienced in East and West African waters since 2005. One report describes the scope and the extent of the challenge, identifies key issues at stake, and highlights relevant impacts, costs and broader trade-related implications of piracy.

B. Stimulating and shaping debates on policy issues affecting Africa's development

8. UNCTAD continues to stimulate and shape debate in Africa through its annual *Economic Development in Africa Report* (*EDAR*) and its *Least Developed Countries Report* (*LDCR*). The *EDAR 2013* subtitled *Intra-African Trade: Unlocking Private Sector Dynamism* provided new insights on how to strengthen the private sector to boost intra-African trade. The report was disseminated in several cities in Africa and stimulated debates on Africa's development challenges. The report was launched by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of Mauritius at the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)–East African Community (EAC)–Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministerial Committee on Trade and Industry in Mauritius in July 2013 in front of senior officials from the tripartite member countries. The report was also very well received at the September 2013 meeting of the Trade and Development Board as evidenced by the positive feedback provided by member States. For instance, at the meeting, the Minister of Trade and Industry of Sierra Leone stated that the key messages of the report were relevant to the priorities enunciated in the Agenda for Prosperity of Sierra Leone. In addition, UNCTAD made a presentation on "Intra-African Trade" based on the report at the Africa Finance and Investment Forum that was held in Geneva in June 2013, in collaboration with the ERMC.

9. In 2013 UNCTAD performed advocacy work among African least developed countries (LDCs) and the international community on the urgency of creating jobs for the rapidly expanding and young population of these countries. The *LDCR 2013* subtitled *Growth with Employment for Inclusive and Sustainable Development* argues that the African LDCs will have to make significant efforts to generate a sufficient quantity of decent employment opportunities for their young populations. If this is not achieved, the likelihood is that poverty and international emigration rates will rise. As part of advocacy work, the findings and policy recommendations of this report were presented in 14 African countries, 10 other countries including several capital cities in Europe, and to member States at the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD.

10. The findings and policy recommendations of past *EDARs* and *LDCRs* are disseminated and discussed at capacity-building seminars and workshops with an aim to sensitize stakeholders on the development policy issues that have been raised in the reports and further stimulate and shape debates around them. For example, in May 2013, with the financial support of the United Nations Development Programme, UNCTAD delivered a capacity-building course entitled "Productive capacities, economic growth and poverty reduction – The example of Angola" to the benefit of 70 Angolan officials from Government, civil society and business associations, as well as international organizations. It resulted in increased awareness by Angolan government officials of the pivotal role of the development of productive capacities for national development. Given the high positive evaluation that was received from participants, the Government has expressed an interest for additional similar capacity-building activities to be undertaken throughout the country.

C. National policy reviews

11. ***National Services Policy Reviews.*** UNCTAD supports the development of the services sector in developing countries through the *National Services Policy Reviews*. These are systematic reviews of the economic, regulatory and institutional frameworks characterizing the services sectors, with the aim of identifying trade policy options that advance national sectoral development objectives. In 2013, *National Services Policy Reviews* were completed for Uganda, Rwanda and Lesotho. The findings of the review for Uganda were also used as a basis for the organization of a study tour of some government officials to other developing countries. The objective of the study tour was to enable officials to strengthen their country's capacity to formulate services policies and promote institutional cooperation between organizations in charge of services issues. In the case of Uganda, the host country was South Africa.

12. ***Investment Policy Reviews (IPRs).*** During the reporting period, UNCTAD published the *IPR Djibouti*, which was presented, together with the *IPR Mozambique*, on the occasion of the fifth session of the UNCTAD Commission on Investment, Enterprise and Development. In 2013, UNCTAD also started, at the request of their respective Governments, the preparation of the *IPRs* of the Sudan and of the Congo. Around five or six years after the completion of the *IPR*, UNCTAD prepares a report that assesses the extent of the implemented recommendations. In 2013, UNCTAD published the implementation reports for Kenya and Lesotho and prepared the report for Zambia. Overall, during 2013, UNCTAD extended technical assistance in support of the implementation of *IPR* recommendations to seven African countries (Burundi, Djibouti, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, Rwanda and Zambia). These activities have led to the creation of an investment promotion agency in Burundi and of the Presidential Council on Investment in Burkina Faso, the modernization of the Investment Promotion Act in Kenya, the adoption of a skills attraction and dissemination programme in Rwanda and the use of a model Bilateral Investment Treaty in Sierra Leone. Meanwhile, UNCTAD has continued dialogue with the donor community and a number of African countries, including seven African LDCs that have requested an *IPR*. Indeed, throughout 2013, the *IPR* programme continued to demonstrate its relevance, quality and impact. The implementation reports prepared by UNCTAD for African countries showed a good to strong implementation record, increased interest by existing investors, and increased capacity to market investment opportunities.

13. ***Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Reviews (STIP Reviews).*** UNCTAD continued to support African countries that participate in the *STIP Reviews* programme. These reviews are a tool for analysis, capacity-building and advisory support to STI development in African countries and are aimed at supporting these countries in their efforts to improve their ability to harness STI for development. In 2013, efforts focused on supporting the implementation of the recommendations of reviews that were carried out in

earlier years. In the case of Lesotho, UNCTAD collaborated with the Government in project formulation and fund raising to establish in the country a number of structures and services that were recommended in the *STIP Review* of that country.

D. Analytical tools that inform technical decision-making

14. In 2013, in continuing efforts to implement the relevant sections of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA), the UNCTAD secretariat developed indicators for measuring productive capacities in LDCs which led to the elaboration of the first Productive Capacity Index on LDCs. The sixtieth session of the Trade and Development Board considered the ongoing work of the secretariat, identifying domestic gaps and limitations, while indicating where LDCs currently stand in building their productive capacities with respect to agreed targets, benchmarks and specific indicators. The Board expressed appreciation for the contribution of UNCTAD in the implementation of the IPoA, including its work on measuring and benchmarking productive capacities in LDCs. UNCTAD's Productive Capacity Index on LDCs will be shortly available on-line.

15. UNCTAD's investment guides aim to raise awareness among the international investment community of investment opportunities and conditions in beneficiary countries. Over the past year, UNCTAD initiated the update of the guide for Uganda. Investment guides are now being developed online (iGuides), and Burundi, Djibouti and Rwanda were among the initial beneficiaries of this initiative.

16. Three African countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, and South Africa) participated in the pilot-testing of UNCTAD's Accounting Development Tool, which aims at strengthening regulatory and institutional capacity for high-quality corporate reporting.

II. Consensus-building

17. The sixteenth African Oil, Gas and Minerals, Trade and Finance Conference and Exhibition (OILGASMINE) was hosted and organized by the Government of the Niger in Niamey from 19 to 23 November 2013. The central theme of the sixteenth OILGASMINE was "Governance and trade in extractive industries" with a special session on "Women in extractive industries" organized consecutively with the conference. The conference was attended by 500 delegates from 34 countries of which 23 were from the African continent. The Prime Minister of the Niger delivered the opening speech. The discussions focused on how to manage in a transparent and accountable manner the windfall gains from petroleum and mine production and trade, and the type of measures needed to share more equitably the revenues generated. A special session on women in extractive industries took place with participation of the First Ladies of Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso and Central African Republic and the representative of the First Lady of Equatorial Guinea. The session discussed diverse challenges faced by women in the extractive industries. The outcome of the conference was a resolution recommending actions within the framework of the Africa Mining Vision that will improve governance, address the capacities gap, enhance local content development, and effectively empower women in the extractive industries.

18. During the BioTrade Congress organized by UNCTAD, held in Geneva from the 11–13 December 2013, BioTrade partners as well as potential BioTrade countries from Africa participated. In particular, representatives were present from PhytoTrade Africa, the small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) Specialty Foods of Africa (Zimbabwe) and Burundi's Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Posts and Tourism. They benefited inter alia from discussions on best practices, based on practical experiences, when developing BioTrade and biodiversity-based value chains. Their experience of working in Southern

Africa was shared as part of South–South and cross-industry cooperation. In addition, Speciality Foods of Africa (Zimbabwe) presented its experience on "Breaking new ground for biodiversity products in Zimbabwe".

19. UNCTAD also participated to the Africa Carbon Forum in July 2013 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. UNCTAD supported the bio-energy session of the African Carbon Forum. It represented one of UNCTAD's contributions to the Nairobi Framework of Activities and addressed the bioenergy theme, covering its current and future linkages to global biofuels trade and human development in Africa. Examples of African countries and experiences from UNCTAD's bioenergy activities in Africa were shared, highlighting evolving experiences in the sector.

III. Technical cooperation

20. **Enhanced Integrated Framework.** For Djibouti, an updating of the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS) began in 2013 under the responsibility of UNCTAD as lead agency. Among major subjects to be considered in the study are the fisheries and tourism sectors, as well as transit transport in relation to Ethiopia's external trade. A DTIS updating exercise was completed in 2013 for the Gambia under the responsibility of UNCTAD as lead agency. It was a major input to national action, in the same year, toward adoption of the Gambia's Medium-term Development Plan (2013–2016). Updating of the DTIS also began in 2013 under the responsibility of UNCTAD as lead agency for Mali, Mozambique and Senegal. Niger requested in 2013 that UNCTAD should be involved as lead agency for its DTIS-updating exercise. Work has started in 2014. UNCTAD has started the implementation of a tier 2 project on trade and investment policies for Benin, with direct involvement of the Government of Benin in addition to the International Trade Centre and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. Tier 2 project proposals on trade and investment-related policies were submitted by UNCTAD to the Governments of the Central African Republic, Chad and the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2013 and await approval.

21. **Capacity-building in information and communications technology (ICT) and law reform.** In April 2013, a special briefing session, examining international and regional best practices on key legal aspects of electronic commerce and cybersecurity, was organized by UNCTAD, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization in Yaoundé for a cross section of parliamentarians including from Cameroon, Namibia, Nigeria and the United Republic of Tanzania. This was the second briefing organized by UNCTAD for parliamentarians. In August 2013, the EAC Framework for Cyberlaws (phase II) was approved for implementation by the tenth Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Transport, Communications, and Meteorology. A new project was launched in 2013 targeting countries in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The first activity carried out was the delivery of the TrainForTrade distance learning training course on the legal aspects of e-commerce. The project supports the implementation of existing legal frameworks on e-transactions, cybercrime and personal data protection. The project is implemented in cooperation with the Commissions of ECOWAS and the African Union.

22. A joint UNCTAD–International Labour Organization (ILO) project to promote women's entrepreneurship and ICTs which involved revising the ILO framework for assessing women's entrepreneurship development policies to integrate the ICT dimension was completed at the end of 2013. As part of this project, research and analysis was conducted, focus group discussions were organized in Dar es Salaam with women entrepreneurs, and an assessors training on women's entrepreneurship and ICTs was held in Dar es Salaam to prepare participants to assess the women's entrepreneurship development

environment in East Africa. The revised ILO framework was also tested in three African countries (Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda) and the ILO has started the process of undertaking a similar assessment in Morocco.

23. **Support to African small island developing States.** Further advisory services were provided in 2013 to the Government of Cape Verde in support of its efforts to achieve structural economic transformation and make steady continuation of progress in the country's post-LDC era. Particular emphasis was placed on UNCTAD's forthcoming action in support of Cape Verde's diversification into three economic sectors of special relevance to the country, namely, international tourism, cultural industries and offshore services

24. **Support to trade negotiations and regional integration processes.** The impact of economic partnership agreements between the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) and the European Union on African regional integration is a major concern to African countries. In assisting African countries to consolidate African regional integration, UNCTAD also assists them in assessing and addressing the proposed economic partnership agreements. UNCTAD contributed to consultative events at national and regional levels organized by the ACP secretariat, the African Union and ECA including: (a) a regional meeting for Africa on multilateral trade negotiations including services negotiations (October 2013, Addis Ababa); (b) the SADC Trade Negotiating Forum (TNF) on Services (November 2013, Johannesburg); (c) the EPA Negotiations Coordinating Meeting (July 2013, Libreville); (d) a national workshop on harnessing trade as an engine of structural transformation and poverty reduction (December 2013, Maseru).

25. UNCTAD project "Support to the SADC Regional Integration and the Multilateral Trading System" aims at strengthening the expertise and capacity of the SADC secretariat, the SADC TNF and SADC policymakers and trade negotiators with respect to services policy issues and negotiations at the regional and multilateral levels. UNCTAD provided substantive inputs to the SADC Financial Services Sector Forum in July 2013 and attended the nineteenth TNF-Services in Johannesburg, South Africa. Likewise, UNCTAD contributed to the SADC Workshop on Tourism and Energy Related Services held in November 2013 and the twentieth TNF-Services in Johannesburg. UNCTAD's contributions in these meetings focused on the specific services covered by the workshops, on developments in the ongoing services negotiations at multilateral and regional levels, as well as on issues relating to SADC's built-in services agenda.

26. Although the majority of African countries are already members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), several of them remain outside the WTO and are currently in various stages of the process of accession. These countries are Algeria, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles and the Sudan. All seven are presently beneficiaries of the UNCTAD Trust Fund for WTO Accessions. The advisory support was aimed at assisting the acceding countries in adjusting their trade policy regime to render it consistent with WTO agreements while taking into account their development objectives and strategies; increase the awareness of the acceding country's negotiating team and stakeholders of the multifaceted issues in the accession process; enhance their expertise of the WTO rules and disciplines; and build their trade policy and negotiating capacities to participate effectively in the accession negotiations. Hands-on assistance was provided on the preparation of the Memorandum on the Foreign Trade Regime and other accession-related documents, as well as the preparation of written responses to questions posed by members. Simulation exercises are also conducted to prepare the negotiating team for meetings of their working party and with their trading partners. Advisory services, field missions and capacity-building activities were undertaken during 2013 for the following countries:

(a) Advisory mission to Liberia on WTO accession issues (30 October–1 November 2013, Monrovia);

(b) Workshop on commercial diplomacy and accession for Ethiopia (26–29 August 2013, Addis Ababa);

(c) Workshop on WTO accession issues for Comoros trade officials (6–10 May 2013, Moroni);

(d) Workshop on technical barriers to trade issues and WTO accession for Seychelles trade officials (23–25 April 2013, Victoria).

27. **Support to trade policy formulation and trade promotion**. In terms of training and human capacity-building, UNCTAD's P166 regional course in 2013 trained 24 African trade officials from 18 countries in trade-related capacity development, particularly in developing effective economic policies that result in development gains from trade and investment agreements at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels. The programme's unique curriculum is structured to enhance African policymakers' understanding on the external and internal economic factors that affect economic policy development. Shorter versions of these courses are also designed and delivered to Geneva-based delegates, including from Africa. These courses, while sharing the most recent research findings on topical issues, also promote discussions and debates amongst delegates to enhance their understanding on adopting relevant economic policies that meet development objectives.

28. The UNCTAD Virtual Institute (Vi) continued to pay special attention to the strengthening of trade and development-related teaching and research at African universities. In 2013, six new universities (from Botswana, the Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Zimbabwe) joined the existing Vi members, making Africa the region with the highest country representation in the Vi. To support teaching of trade and development issues at African universities, the Vi provided advisory and curricular support to a master's programme in trade, development and international relations at the Open University, Zambia, which admitted its first intake of students in January 2014. The Vi also published a teaching module on capital flows to developing countries, and provided support to academics from Ethiopia, Kenya and Zimbabwe who adapted Vi teaching materials on FDI, competitiveness and development, and regional trade to the context of their countries. The materials will be used to teach courses on international economic law in Ethiopia and international economics in Kenya and Zimbabwe. Vi organized seven national professional development workshops for a total of 195 African academics, including 62 women. Five workshops requested by Vi member universities in South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Ghana, Kenya and Senegal focused on tools and methods for trade policy analysis. Five African academics (from Cameroon, Kenya, Senegal, Togo and Nigeria) took part in the Vi fellowship programme in Geneva.

29. **Building capacities in trade logistics and trade facilitation.** In 2013, UNCTAD continued its work on the development of national trade facilitation implementation plans, including the finalization of national studies in Angola, Chad and Gabon. UNCTAD also conducted regional workshops on project development and regional trade facilitation solutions in Benin (for a group of French-speaking African countries), and in Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania (for members of the EAC). UNCTAD provided policy advice and hands-on assistance to Nigeria Exim Bank on the use of public–private partnership models for a project development entitled Sealink, as well as for terminal concessions and shipping services. The Sealink project is a regional project headed by Nigeria Exim Bank that aims at building an efficient coastal sea transport system that will promote interregional trade and provide cabotage for both passengers and freight for Western and Central African States.

30. In 2013, UNCTAD continued the implementation of the ongoing joint project between the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, UNCTAD and the ECA for "Capacity-building of control authorities and transport operators to improve

efficiency of cross-border transport in landlocked and transit developing countries" in the East Africa Central Corridor. In this respect, national cluster development agents in three countries (the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi) were recruited in collaboration with the Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency to apply the CT-TPM Toolkit (a transport facilitation toolkit which includes UNCTAD cluster development methodology) at the country level. The ultimate results of the application of CT-TPM will lead to the formulation of national and corridor action plans for transport facilitation.

31. **Building capacities in trade logistics and trade facilitation – the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA).** The work carried out by UNCTAD's ASYCUDA programme continued to increase revenue collected by customs in developing countries, as well as helping to reduce clearing times and costs. The year 2013 saw the extension of ASYCUDA systems in Africa to 41 countries, with the addition of Lesotho. In the field of customs automation, the implementation of ASYCUDA has produced significant improvements in terms of trade facilitation and, in particular, has ensured compliance with national regulations. In general, it has reduced cost and clearance times, increased revenue collection and provided accurate and timely international trade statistics. In 2013, the Government of Rwanda implemented the Rwanda Electronic Single Window with the aim of facilitating international trade by expediting and simplifying information flows between trade and government institutions. The Rwanda Electronic Single Window, built using the latest ASYCUDA technology, already connects through the Internet 20 other governmental agencies, commercial banks, customs agents and transporters. Transfer of know-how has enabled a full ownership of the system by the Rwanda Revenue Authority.

32. **TrainForTrade.** UNCTAD, through its TrainForTrade programme and in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission launched a project in West Africa to support the development of harmonization of laws on electronic commerce in the region. The project will provide technical assistance and capacity-building activities over the period 2013–2015 with a focus on "The legal aspects of e-commerce" and "E-commerce for practitioners". African countries participating in this project are Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo. In 2013, two regional training workshops on technical tutoring were organized. Thirty-four participants successfully completed the workshops and helped organize training rooms for group chat sessions that are incorporated into TrainForTrade's delivery of e-learning courses. This was followed by a distance-learning course on "Legal aspects of electronic commerce" delivered in October–November 2013. One hundred and eighteen participants (36 per cent of whom were women) successfully completed the course. As a follow-up to the course, two face-to-face workshops are scheduled for February and March 2014 to enable participants to deepen specific issues covered in the e-learning course and also to discuss how ECOWAS countries can advance the harmonization of e-commerce legislation. Another e-learning course entitled "E-commerce for practitioners" is scheduled for May–June 2014 with more focus on the business side of e-commerce.

33. UNCTAD, through its TrainForTrade Port Training Programme promotes South–South collaboration and knowledge-sharing through two language-based networks in Africa, English and French, in cooperation with Irish Aid and the Port of Marseille respectively. The programme provides technical cooperation and capacity-building through training of trainers workshops and coaching workshops to support capacity development of local instructors within the ports who then train their own staff; and also runs the Modern Port Management course, which targets middle and senior port managers. In 2013, five training of trainers workshops were held in which 61 trainers from 14 African countries participated. Eleven courses lasting 30 hours each were delivered in Africa by local instructors trained by UNCTAD. The Modern Port Management course consists of 240 hours of training activities, which are divided into eight modules and delivered over a two-

year span. To obtain the UNCTAD Certificate in Modern Port Management, participants must complete each module and defend a dissertation. More than 70 per cent of the 241 candidates (26 per cent women) were awarded the certificate after having successfully defended their final dissertations. These dissertations (about 168 each year) have proven useful for the port communities in improving their services. Another training of trainers workshop is scheduled for April 2014 in which 10 representations from African ports (Ghana Ports and Harbours, and Lagos Port Authority) will participate.

34. **Support to competition policymaking.** At a national level, UNCTAD, with the support of donor countries and programmes, has played an important role in developing competition regimes in Africa by: (a) drafting competition legislations; (b) organizing training for officials responsible for the operation of national competition authorities; (c) contributing to the creation of a "competition culture"; (d) publishing studies on competition policy issues related to specific sectors at the request of beneficiary countries. UNCTAD has recently assisted Comoros, Mozambique, Rwanda and Seychelles in drafting or amending their competition law.

35. At a regional level, under the umbrella of its Africa Competition Programme, AFRICOMP, UNCTAD has assisted regional organizations in Africa in drafting and implementing competition legislations. It has also organized a number of conferences, seminars and workshops aimed at contributing to capacity-building and multilateral cooperation in the area of competition. In this regard, within the implementation of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) capacity-building project on competition law and policy, a two-week training course was organized by UNCTAD for their case handlers and the representatives of member States in cooperation with the Zurich School of Management and Law in Geneva from 1–12 July 2013. In addition, two drafting sessions were organized in Geneva in cooperation with the Competition Directorate of the WAEMU Commission in September and November in Geneva. The aims of these sessions were to draft guidelines which would decentralize the enforcement power to member States, and thereby improve the enforcement of community rules in WAEMU. UNCTAD also assisted North African countries through the Euro-Mediterranean Competition Forum (EMCF). The first EMCF workshop was organized in Geneva at the margin of the thirteenth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy in July 2013, and dealt with competition advocacy towards certain constituencies in the private and public sectors. The second EMCF workshop was held in Tunis in November 2013 and addressed the relationship between competition agencies and sector regulators.

36. **Project on Local Production and Access to Medicines for Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya and Ghana).** This project, in which UNCTAD participates as one of the leading partners, is funded by the European Union. The main aim of the project is to promote a comprehensive and system-wide approach on local production of medical products through greater coherence between industrial, trade and health policies. The project is embedded in ongoing efforts in Africa, such as the Pharmaceutical Production and Manufacturing Plan for Africa. Given the emphatic focus on building capacity for local production and related access to medical products in Africa as part of the project, and to systematize and augment the information available on these issues in the African context, a situational analysis at the regional level for Africa has been undertaken as a first step to guide the capacity-building work. The resulting UNCTAD study, entitled "Local production of pharmaceuticals: A regional situation analysis for Africa" has been completed. UNCTAD has also completed a "Policy manual on local production and access to medicines", which will serve as the background document to structure the capacity-building activities envisaged by the project.

37. **Capacity-building on investment.** A regional workshop was held in December 2013 in Rabat, Morocco, in partnership with the Islamic Development Bank to equip

African countries to better address future investment policy formulation in support of sustainable development. The training course benefited 22 African countries.

38. In 2013, African countries participated in several workshops and meetings organized by UNCTAD to build capacities in the area of investment promotion, including a seminar in Geneva on the promotion of green FDI in which government officials and delegates from 12 African countries participated, and an ad hoc training course in Addis Ababa on investment promotion for 40 junior Ethiopian diplomats. Senior investment promotion officials from 22 African investment promotion agencies, policymakers, industry experts, representatives of international organizations and business executives participated in a regional workshop on "Seizing the low-carbon investment opportunity in Africa", held in November 2013 in Durban, South Africa. The workshop enhanced, among other aspects, the understanding among investment promotion agencies in Africa of the global business opportunities for low-carbon FDI, and strategies for promoting green sectors.

39. UNCTAD continued throughout 2013, and in cooperation with other international organizations, to work towards the full-scale operationalization of its set of Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investments for sustainable development through guidelines, monitoring, and other options. This is of specific importance for Africa because in many low-income countries in this region agriculture has the potential to attract a large share of FDI inflows. Research on the principles was conducted during 2012–2013 in 13 countries, of which eight are in Africa (Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Mozambique, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia). The study based on this research, to be published in 2014, will contribute to a growing body of knowledge on what the responsible and sustainable conduct of agricultural investment consists of in practical, operational terms for communities, Governments and investors.

40. **Intellectual property.** UNCTAD provided training for stakeholders on trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights and public health/local production of pharmaceuticals through a regional workshop in Southern Africa, and at the national level in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa. A French version of the training course is being developed to respond to the request of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

41. **Support to enterprise development.** In 2013, UNCTAD continued to provide assistance to the 13 operational African Empretec centres through advisory services, policy workshops and seminars based on the newly developed Entrepreneurship Policy Framework, to provide training to entrepreneurs and SMEs, and to support regional networks and initiatives. In July 2012, UNCTAD started a new collaboration with ILO Zambia to conduct a linkages study in the building construction sector in Zambia. UNCTAD completed a report entitled "Promoting TNC-SME business linkages in the Zambian building construction industry", in which linkages opportunities for local SMEs in the construction sector's value chain were identified. In 2013, UNCTAD provided its inputs to the project document for the implementation stage of the programme (2013–2017) and the development of an action plan for business linkages activities for SMEs in the value chain. The inception phase officially closed on 30 June 2013 and the Green Jobs Programme's implementation phase started in the last quarter of 2013.

42. Under the framework of UNCTAD's Business Linkages Programme, hosted by the Tanzania Investment Centre, two targeted capacity-building interventions for selected suppliers in the agribusiness and mining sectors were held in 2013. Under the framework of UNCTAD's Business Linkages Programme hosted by the Investment Promotion Centre Mozambique, UNCTAD identified sound business linkage opportunities within existing mining value chains with high growth potential, especially for young people and women in rural areas.

43. **Accounting and reporting.** UNCTAD conducted a case study of corporate governance disclosure in Egypt. The study employs the benchmark of good practices in corporate governance disclosure developed by UNCTAD's Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR) to assess top Egyptian companies' corporate social responsibility policies to identify best practices for maximizing the development impact of corporate activities. The results of the study were presented during the thirtieth session of ISAR, held in November 2013 in Geneva.

44. **Support to debt management**. UNCTAD's Debt Management and Financial Analysis System programme provides support to developing countries and LDCs to strengthen their capacity to manage their debt in an effective and sustainable way, in support of poverty reduction, development and good governance. Technical cooperation activities during the reporting period that resulted in concrete and sustainable results were undertaken by the programme in Uganda, Gabon, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Zimbabwe to improve debt recording in those countries; in the Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo to support the relevant national debt offices in the production of debt data validation calendars; in Angola, the Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo to assist in the elaboration of national debt statistic bulletins; and in the Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo to improve debt analysis capacity. More than 30 different African government delegations attended UNCTAD's ninth Debt Management Conference held in Geneva in November 2013, during which senior national and international debt managers and experts from around the world discussed some of the most pertinent topics in both external and domestic debt, debt management and public finance.

45. **Trade and gender**. UNCTAD is conducting research and analysis on the gender ramifications of macroeconomic policies, and specifically trade policies, in selected developing countries. In Africa these include Cape Verde, Lesotho, Angola and Rwanda. *Who is Benefiting from Trade Liberalization in Angola? A Gender Perspective* was published in 2013. The study explores the impacts of Angola's integration into the world economy mainly as an oil exporter, and in particular analyses whether there is a gender bias in the effects of trade. A fact-finding mission was conducted in Angola in May 2013 with the aim of gathering real-life information for the finalization of the case study. A national workshop, attended by over 100 participants mainly from governmental institutions, was conducted in Luanda, Angola, in November 2013 to present the findings and recommendations of the study with the aim of enhancing the capacities of local policymakers to mainstream gender in trade policy and familiarizing relevant national stakeholders with the methodologies used. The study *The Fisheries Sector in the Gambia: Trade, Value Addition and Social Inclusiveness, with a Focus on Women* was finalized and is about to be published as a result of inter-agency cooperation between UNCTAD and the Enhanced Integrated Framework secretariat. The publication is intended to accompany the revised diagnostic trade integration study for the Gambia.

46. **Trade and poverty**. A national study on trade and planning policies in a poverty reduction perspective was carried out in 2013 by UNCTAD for Ethiopia. A national workshop took place in the same year in Addis Ababa, enabling a large group of institutional and other stakeholders to enrich their awareness of the importance of productive capacities and trade in the quest for structural progress and poverty reduction. Similar activities have been undertaken for Lesotho and Senegal in 2013.

47. **Trade and environment.** UNCTAD assisted African countries in assessing potential for developing renewable energy sources. UNCTAD supported activities to build an African network of bioenergy experts. A group of African researchers were mobilized for a training workshop organized by UNCTAD in Stockholm in May 2013, and co-sponsored by the Swedish Secretariat for Environmental Earth System Sciences. It involved participation of institutions with activities in Africa, namely the Swedish Royal Institute of

Technology, the Bunda College of Agriculture (Malawi), Eduardo Mondlane University (Mozambique), the Zambian Biofuels Association and the Stockholm Environment Institute. During the week-long workshop, researchers from Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania participated in a number of site visits, exchanged lessons and engaged in discussions with policymaking institutions such as the Swedish Energy Agency, and private sector companies working in solid, liquid and gaseous bioenergy development.

48. Since 2004 UNCTAD has supported the Government of Uganda in elaborating an organic agriculture policy, with support of stakeholders such as the National Organic Agricultural Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU). At the request of NOGAMU, and in collaboration with the Ministry, UNCTAD provided support to the Movement to develop an implementation plan for the draft organic agriculture policy as a means of onward development of the policy. The action plan for implementation of Uganda organic agricultural policy was developed by July 2013, and both the policy and the action plan will be submitted to the Government at cabinet level for review and approval.

49. **Other advisory services**. At the request of the Government of Angola, UNCTAD organized a national training and capacity-building workshop on Angola's progress toward graduation from the LDC category. The workshop, which took place in Luanda, examined Angola's prospects, opportunities and challenges in meeting the current graduation criteria. The workshop was attended by ministers and other senior government officials of Angola, policymakers as well as advisors.

50. With the financial assistance of the Government of Austria, UNCTAD has undertaken an assessment study on the challenges of institutional coordination in Mozambique in the areas of trade and development. The objectives of the assessment are to: (a) identify key lessons and priority areas for action at the national level, drawing from successful experiences and best practices of other developing countries; (b) produce a synthesis of policy lessons and conclusions together with clearly identified and sequenced actions by the Government of Mozambique including on how to enhance the participation of the private sector and civil society, (c) organize a national capacity-building training workshop for senior officials and policy advisors of Mozambique. Preparation for the national workshop is ongoing and it will be held during the second quarter of 2014. The workshop is expected to serve as a vehicle to share the conclusions and findings of the study with a focus on priority areas for action and successful experiences and best practices.

51. UNCTAD received a technical assistance request to help implement the policy incentives proposed in its *Technology and Innovation Report 2012: Technology, Innovation and South–South Collaboration* in the United Republic of Tanzania as part of its overall science, technology and innovation policy framework. As part of this exercise, the team of the *Technology and Innovation Report* series has been working with the Commission on Science and Technology of the United Republic of Tanzania, to propose recommendations to the Government.

52. UNCTAD has completed a project on "Promoting regional value chains in sub-Saharan Africa" funded by the African EXIM Bank and the Commonwealth secretariat. The project took a sectoral approach and has completed a study on "Identifying and promoting regional value chains in leather in sub-Saharan Africa". To discuss the study, two regional workshops were organized, hosted by the COMESA Leather and Leather Product Institute (LLPI) in Addis Ababa in June 2013, and by the East African Chamber of Commerce in December 2013 in Nairobi. The workshops were attended by 100 participants from 30 African countries, which included industry associations heads, high-level policymakers, academia, media and other stakeholders. Subsequent to the workshops, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Federation of Indian SMEs and COMESA LLPI on the sharing of technology. The COMESA LLPI also received requests

from four countries to use UNCTAD's study to strengthen their linkages into regional supply chains in leather in sub-Saharan Africa.

IV. General impact assessment

53. The impact of UNCTAD's interventions across its three main pillars (research and analysis; consensus-building; technical cooperation) can be evidenced through the main outcomes described in the present report. Below are highlighted some of these outcomes under the two categories: contribution to effective policy design, formulation and implementation in Africa; and the building of capacities of African government officials, institutions, the private sector and civil society.

Contribution to effective policy design, formulation and implementation

- *EDAR 2013. Intra-African Trade: Unlocking Private Sector Dynamism* contained a series of practical and actionable policy recommendations on how to boost intra-African trade. For instance, the report recommended strengthening the implementation of existing regional trade agreements in Africa by establishing monitoring tools – such as an internal scorecard that tracks the extent to which members have transposed regional trade rules into national law by an agreed deadline. In February 2014, the EAC announced the creation of a scorecard to measure its member States' compliance to the free movement of capital, services and goods. This is an example of a concrete policy action that is in line with the recommendations of the *EDAR*.

- The findings and policy recommendations of past *EDARs* and *LDCRs* were disseminated and discussed at capacity-building seminars and workshops with an aim to sensitize stakeholders on the development policy issues that have been raised in the reports, and stimulate and shape debates further around them. For example, with the financial support of the United Nations Development Programme, UNCTAD delivered a capacity-building course on "Productive capacities, economic growth and poverty reduction – The example of Angola" to the benefit of 70 Angolan officials from Government, civil society and business associations, as well as international organizations, in May 2013. It resulted in increased awareness by Angolan government officials of the pivotal role of the development of productive capacities for national development. Given the high positive evaluation that was received from participants, the Government has expressed an interest in similar additional capacity-building activities to be undertaken throughout the country.

- In continuing efforts to implement the relevant sections of the IPoA, UNCTAD has developed indicators for measuring productive capacities in LDCs which has led to the elaboration of the first Productive Capacity Index on LDCs. Last year, the sixtieth session of the Trade and Development Board considered the ongoing work of the secretariat and expressed appreciation for the contribution that UNCTAD is making towards the IPoA, including its work on measuring and benchmarking productive capacities in LDCs.

Building of capacities of government officials, institutions, private sector and civil society

- Overall, during 2013 UNCTAD extended technical assistance in support of the implementation of *IPR* recommendations to seven African countries (Burundi, Djibouti, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, Rwanda and Zambia). These activities have led to the creation of an investment promotion agency in Burundi and of the Presidential

Council on Investment in Burkina Faso, the modernization of the Investment Promotion Act in Kenya, the adoption of a skills attraction and dissemination programme in Rwanda and the use of a model Bilateral Investment Treaty in Sierra Leone.

- There are seven countries that are presently beneficiaries of the UNCTAD Trust Fund for WTO Accessions and these are Algeria, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles and the Sudan. The advisory support UNCTAD provides aims at assisting the acceding countries in adjusting their trade policy regime to render it consistent with WTO agreements, while taking into account their development objectives and strategies; increase the awareness of the acceding country's negotiating team and stakeholders of the multifaceted issues in the accession process; enhance their expertise of the WTO rules and disciplines; and build their trade policy and negotiating capacities to participate effectively in the accession negotiations.

- Through its training courses, UNCTAD continues to have an impact on capacity-building in African countries. For instance, UNCTAD's P166 regional course in 2013 trained 24 African trade officials from 18 countries in trade-related capacity development, particularly in developing effective economic policies that result in development gains from trade and investment agreements at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels. The Vi for its part organized seven national professional development workshops for a total of 195 African academics, including 62 women. In 2013, through UNCTAD's TrainForTrade Port Training Programme, five training of trainers workshops were held in which 61 trainers from 14 African countries participated. Eleven courses lasting 30 hours each were delivered in Africa by local instructors trained by UNCTAD. More than 70 per cent of the potential 241 candidates (of whom 26 per cent were women) were awarded the Certificate in Modern Port Management after having successfully defended their final dissertations.

- The work carried out by UNCTAD's ASYCUDA programme continued to increase revenue collected by customs in developing countries, as well as helping to reduce clearing times and costs. The year 2013 saw the extension of ASYCUDA systems in Africa to 41 countries with the addition of Lesotho. In 2013, the Government of Rwanda implemented the Rwanda Electronic Single Window with the aim to facilitate international trade by expediting and simplifying information flows between trade and government institutions. The Rwanda Electronic Single Window, built using the latest ASYCUDA technology, already connects, through the Internet, 20 other governmental agencies, commercial banks, customs agents and transporters.